

1-86-100

STATE OF TENNESSEE
OFFICE OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL
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NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0485

March 12, 1993

OPINION NO. U93-30

Emergency Communications District/Authority to Determine
Location of Dispatcher

QUESTION

Does the board of directors of an emergency communications district or the county commission determine where the dispatcher for the emergency communications district will be placed?

OPINION

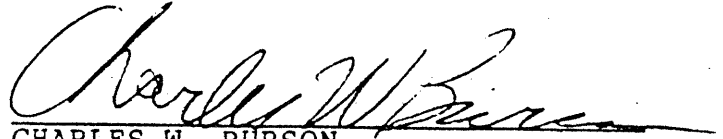
The board of directors of an emergency communications district has the authority to determine the location of the dispatcher for the district.

ANALYSIS

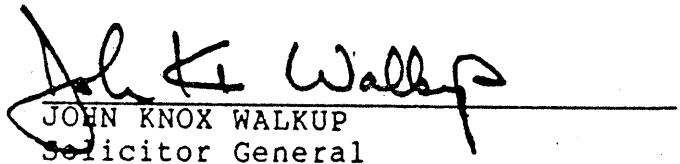
The Emergency Communications District Law, T.C.A. §7-86-101--7-86-151 (1992), allows a county or municipal legislative body to create an emergency communications district after the establishment of such a district has been approved in a referendum. The legislative body can appoint a board of directors to "govern the affairs of the district." T.C.A. §7-86-105.

T.C.A. §7-86-106 provides that, "The powers of each district shall be vested in and exercised by a majority of the members of the board of directors of the district." Under T.C.A. §7-86-107(a), the board "shall create an emergency communications service designed to have the capability of utilizing at least one" of four methods of responding to emergency calls.

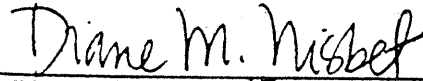
Once the county legislative body has exercised its power to establish an emergency communications district, it is the board of directors that sets up the emergency communications service and exercises the powers of the emergency communications district. It is, therefore, the opinion of this office that the board of directors has the authority to decide on the location of the dispatcher for the district.



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